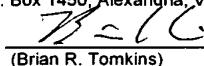


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached
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Dated: October 30, 2007

Signature:


(Brian R. Tomkins)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-447 CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of :
Ralph et al. :
Application No.: 10/771,597 : Group Art Unit: 3733
Filed: February 4, 2004 : Examiner: M. C. Hoffman
For: INSERTION TOOL FOR USE WITH :
INTERVERTEBRAL SPACERS :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated October 9, 2007, finally rejecting claims 1-11, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: